Family Support and Involvement -- promoting and enhancing the involvement of parents and family members in education.

Families must be actively engaged (at home, at school, and in the community) as advocates and decision-makers in their child's education. Youngsters with parents involved in their education have higher grades and test scores, have better attendance, complete homework more consistently, and exhibit more positive attitudes and behavior (Henderson, A.T., and Mapp, K.L., 2002). Schools must be open to creating and supporting partnerships that include practices such as:

- a) supporting families to meet their basic obligations to their children;
- b) establishing respectful two-way communication between home and school;
- c) enhancing home-school connections and sense of community;
- d) involving family in decision-making and advocacy on behalf of their children and for issues related to improving schools;
- e) engaging families to support their children's learning and development at home;
- f) eliciting help from families to meet classroom, school, and community needs; and
- g) addressing specific learning and support needs of the family.

(Adelman, 1994, Davies, 1987, Epstein, 1988, and Henderson & Mapp, 2002)